

FUNCTION 300: NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Function 300 includes a wide variety of programs whose primary purpose is to develop, manage, and maintain the nation's natural resources and environment. Agencies with major programs in this function include: the Army of Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the National Park Service (NPS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

	(\$ Billions)						
	1999 Actuals	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
President's Budget:							
Budget authority	24.4	24.3	26.0	26.3	26.0	26.6	27.1
Outlays	24.0	24.5	25.0	25.6	25.5	25.8	26.2
OMB Baseline:							
Budget authority	24.4	24.2	25.4	26.1	26.9	27.5	28.2
Outlays	24.0	24.4	24.8	25.6	26.5	27.2	27.7
Budget compared to OMB Baseline:							
Budget authority	---	.2	.6	.1	-.8	-.8	-1.0
Outlays	---	.1	.2	.1	-1.0	-1.4	-1.5

The President is requesting \$26 billion in budget authority and \$25 billion in outlays for 2001. This is \$1.8 billion more in BA and \$600 million more in OT than last year. Overall spending increases through 2005, but not on a consistent path. The president's top priorities in function 300 include his "Living Lands Legacy," "Livability Agenda," and Climate Change Technology Initiative.

- < The President continues to support the **"Living Lands Legacy"** doubling its funding to \$1.4 billion. This initiative provides funding for land acquisition and conservation.
- The **Department of the Interior** budget request includes \$735 million for the initiative, an increase of \$391 million over last year's level. \$470 million would be used for the Federal land acquisition program and the State conservation grant program which are funded from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). \$265 million would be used to assist State, local and tribal governments protect parklands, open space, and wildlife habitat.
- The **Forest Service** would receive \$235 million, an increase of \$25 million. \$130 million would be funded from the LWCF.

- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** and the Department of Commerce would receive \$266 million to their portion of the Living Lands Legacy: \$100 million to provide coastal impact assistance to protect ocean and coastal resources in states with offshore drilling; \$100 million to fund the Pacific coastal salmon recovery program; and \$60 million to support the 1999 Pacific Salmon Agreement reached by the United States and Canada.

- < The President proposes to continue his **“Livability Agenda.”** Much of this project is funded through other functions, however, the President requests for the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** \$50 million for the Great Lakes Grant program.

- < The President proposes \$4 billion for his **Climate Change Technology Initiative (CCTI)**. Due to the multi-agency aspect of this program much of the funding falls in functions 270, 350 and revenues. However, the following agencies in function 300 are proposed to receive funding under this initiative.
 - S** The **EPA** receives \$227 million an increase of \$124 million or 120 percent.

 - S** The **Forest Service** receives \$16 million for research and development of bio based products and bio energy, as well as research into carbon sequestration and carbon cycle science. This is a new proposal.

- < The Administration proposes that the **Clean Air Partnership Fund** receive \$ 85 million from the **EPA**. This program was originally proposed in last year’s budget, although it was not funded. It would provide funds for state and local projects that accelerate air pollution reductions and encourage public-private partnerships.

- < The President proposes \$461 million in the EPA’s budget for the **Clean Water Action Plan (CWAP)**. This is a 46 percent increase over last year. The Forest Service will also contribute \$101 million to CWAP. This is an increase of 153 percent. This program emphasizes a priority watershed approach to water quality improvement.

- < The President’s budget proposes \$1.6 billion for the **superfund program**, an increase of \$200 million over 2000 of which \$1.45 billion is for discretionary spending and \$150 million is for a proposed mandatory program to deal with parties unable to pay for cleanup of hazardous sites. \$92 million will be used for Brownfields programs.

- < The President proposes \$144 million for **Everglades** watershed restoration an increase of less than 1 percent over the 2000 level.

Proposals for changes in **mandatory** fees:

- < The Administration proposes several changes for the National Forest Service including:

- S** Separating several programs from timber receipts. The **payments to States** stabilization program would have its payments decoupled from timber receipts. A new program called Healthy Investment in Rural Environments (**HIRE**) would reform the Forest Service trust fund system and authorize new permanent appropriations for the employment of skilled workers to complete maintenance projects.
- S** Making the **recreational fee demonstration program** permanent.
- S** Proposing a **motion picture fee** that would charge photographers and the movie industry for the administrative and maintenance costs associated with their use of public lands.
- < The President again proposes a **Harbor Services User Fee** to replace the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund. In 1998 the Supreme Court upheld a lower court decision deeming that a portion of the Trust Fund collected as a tax on exports was unconstitutional. The Administrations proposal would create a Harbor Services Fund, in which existing balances of the Maintenance Trust Fund and, of course, receipts from the new user fee would be deposited. The user fee would generate \$966 million.
- < For 2000, the President proposes **supplemental** appropriations for function 300 totaling \$63 million. The request includes funding for NOAA, US Geological Survey, US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service and the Army Corps of Engineers to respond to Hurricane Floyd and other disasters. A **contingent supplemental** of \$100 million is requested for the Bureau of Land Management for the same purposes.

